Bolangir and Kalahandi (KBK) in Orissa a Long Term Action Plan was launched in 1995 for the development of these districts. Thereafter, to ensure better focus on high priority schemes which would deal with the basic problems of these districts, the Government of Orissa was asked to prepare a revised plan. The Revised Long Term Plan (1998-99 to 2006-07) consists of Central Plan and Centrally Sponsored Schemes in various sectors, namely agriculture, horticulture, watershed development, afforestation, irrigation, health, drinking water, emergency feeding, welfare of SCs/STs and rural connectivity.

The State Government have informed that additional funds to the tune of Rs. 8.14 crore were made available in 1997-98 (Rs. 2 crore for Mobile Health Units, Rs. 2 crore for Emergency Feeding and Rs. 4.14 crore for Million Wells Scheme).

After the initiation of the Revised Long Term Plan Action Plan, an additionality of Rs. 37 crore were provided in the Annual Plan 1998-99 of Orissa specifically for these districts. In addition, Rs. 7 crore were provided for the Emergency Feeding Programme and Rs. 2 crore for Mobile Health Units under Basic Minimum Services (BMS).

For Annual Plan 1999-2000, an additionality of Rs. 37 crore has been allocated over and above Rs. 10 crore earmarked for Drinking Water Supply, Rs. 8.60 crore for Emergency Feeding Programme and Rs. 2 crore for Mobile Health Units under BMS.

Small Scale Industries

969. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES: be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme to promote Small Scale and Agro Rural Industries in the NE Region particullarly in the State of Assam;

(b) if so, the full details thereof;

(c) the amount allocated for promotion of Small Scale Industries in Assam and actually utilized for the same during the Ninth Plan;

(d) the amount proposed for promotion of SSI in the State during the Ninth Plan; and

(e) special employment generation programmes being taken or proposed to be taken by Government in the State of Assam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) Government have introduced a comprehensive New Industrial Policy for the entire Northeastern region, including Assam. The policy includes, infrasturcture support and both project and production related benefits that are meant for all industrial activities, including those of small Scale and Agro & Rural industries. The salient features of the policy are as follows:—

(1) Expenditure on Growth Centres, up to Rs. 15 crore would be met through Central assistance.

(2) Funding pattern for Integrated Infrastructure Development Centres (IIDCs) changed from 2:3 between Government of India and SIDBI to 4:1. The Government of India funds would be in the nature of grant.

(3) Transport subsidy schame has been extended by 7 years up to 31.3.2007 and amount to be disbursed through Northeastern Development Finance Corporation.

(4) Industries located in the Growth Centres would be given capital investment subsidy at the rate of 15% on Plant & Machinery subject to a ceiling of Rs. 30 lakh.

(5) Growth Centres & IIDCs become tax-free zones for income tax and excise duty for a period of 10 years. Certain high growth potential industries have also been given the tax-free status irrespective of the location in the North-East.

(6) An interest subsidy of 3% on the working capital loans would be provided for a period of ten years after the commencement of production.

(7) Comprehensive Insurance Scheme for new industrial units has been put in place.

(c) and (d) Funds for promotion of Small Scale Industries are not allocated State-wise.

(e) Specific relaxation have been provided for the Northeastern region including Assam, under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana, which is aimed at providing self-employment to educated unemployed youth. This includes, age relaxation (40 years under general category as compared to 35 years in other parts of the country), higher family income limit (Rs. 40,000) per annum as compared to Rs. 24,000 in other parts of the country) and higher subsidy component (up to maximum of Rs. 15,000 as compared to a ceiling of Rs. 7,500/- in other parts of the country).

Scheme for Rural Industries

†970. SHRI ONKAR SINGH LAKHAWAT: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state

(a) whether Government propose to make any effective scheme for rural industreis to encourage and make them self reliant for the required production to meet the requirements of urban and rural citizens;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) whether there have been any increase in the rural industries and domestic productions during the last 50 years and if so, the percentage thereof and the State-wise details thereof for the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) Government has already introduced a National Programme for Rural Industrialisation under which 100 rural clusters with forward and backward linkages, are being taken up through Small Industries Development Organisation and Khadi and Village Industries Commission. Apart from this, the Rural Employment Generation Programme Provides interest subsidy for Khadi sector and margin money assistance for Village Industries for promotion and development of Khadi and Village Industry activity in rural areas.

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.